

**Use of Montana Highway Bridge Structures by Bats (MDT Project #8159):  
a Quarterly Report (31 October 2004)**

submitted by:  
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The work conducted between 1 July and 30 September 2004 under this contract was devoted to field preparation and visits to the day roosts found and monitored in 2003. Expenses charged to the project during this past quarter (\$3,477.69) were applied to salaries and benefits, travel, supplies, communications, and overhead.

A breakdown of expenses follows, showing the total expenses in each category to date ("Previously billed"), and expenses charged this quarter, between 1 July and 30 September 2004 ("Billable amount this period").

**BUDGET**

	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Balance available</b>	<b>Total Expended: as of 09/30/04</b>	<b>Previously billed</b>	<b>Billable amount this period</b>
<b>Salaries</b>	21,885.00	1,014.56	20,870.44	19,521.29	1,349.15
<b>Benefits</b>	13,992.00	6,240.91	7,751.09	7,211.43	539.66
<b>Sub-total</b>	35,877.00	7,255.47	28,621.53	26,732.72	1,888.81
<b>Travel</b>	3,827.00	(2,103.13)	5,930.13	4,966.23	963.90
<b>Supplies</b>	4,576.00	1,502.03	3,073.97	2,956.45	117.52
<b>Contractual</b>	300.00	300.00	---	---	---
<b>Training</b>	1,326.00	1,207.06		---	---
<b>Communications</b>	60.00	(278.82)	457.76	429.98	27.78
<b>Printing</b>	400.00	400.00	---	---	---
<b>Other</b>	200.00	(10.00)	210.00	210.00	---
<b>Subtotal</b>	10,689.00	1,017.14	9,671.86	8,562.66	1,109.20
<b>Total Direct</b>	46,566.00	8,272.61	38,293.39	35,295.38	2,998.01
<b>Indirect Costs</b>	7,451.00	1,324.06	6,126.94	5,647.26	479.68
<b>Total Reportable</b>	54,017.00	9,596.67	44,420.33	40,942.64	3,477.69

Accomplishments: This quarter was devoted to two additional revisits to the day roosts found in 2003: visits occurred on 21-22 July and 26-27 August. During the July checks, nine of 12 bridges were occupied. Of these nine occupied bridges, four were maternity colonies (two each of Big Brown Bat and Little Brown Myotis), the same maternity colonies as in 2003; colony sizes were estimated at 12 and 72 Big Brown Bats, and 78 and 125 Little Brown Myotis. We captured a lactating female from one of the colonies of *Myotis* to verify identification. The remaining five occupied bridges harbored one to four bats each. The three unoccupied bridges in July were also unoccupied in June, and remained unoccupied in August; to date these three bridges have shown no evidence of day-use during 2004. In August, only six of twelve bridges were occupied. Three of the four maternity colonies harbored reduced numbers of bats (4-16 total individuals) and one colony was completely abandoned; two other bridges harbored single Big Brown Bats. Surprisingly, 17 Big Brown Bats occupied one concrete bridge in August, when only a single Big Brown Bat was present in June and July. This apparently represents a group of dispersing individuals.

Summary: The July and August 2004 visits to the 2003 roosts represent the second and third of at least four summer trips to these roost structures. Results of the 2004 roost monitoring will be incorporated into a modified final report, the bulk of which is already completed. All expenditures for this quarter of the extension pertained to Site Surveys (Task 2).